

## Heart of Arlington Neighborhood Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

**Date:** September 3, 2015

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Attending:** President Dick Thomas, Vice-President Barbara Salser, Secretary Lea Worcester, Treasurer Grace Darling, Neighborhood Representatives – Gene Prater, Joe Schaefer, Dale Bergeron, Rebecca Boxall, Phil McConnell, also attending: Gincy Thoppil, Brad Franklin, Samuel Smith III, Joe Bergeron, Don Boxall, Jim Gayda, and Sher Gayda

**Absent:** Russell Hildebrandt, Rich Bilanceri

### **New Business:**

- **Relationship between City of Arlington, UT Arlington, and nearby neighborhoods:** Gincy Thoppil had several questions to ask the board:
  - **Question 1:** What are your concerns about students? Is there an issue?
    - **Board:** HANA has been working with Timothy Quinnan on guidelines for working with students. An issue that we perceive is that townhomes with student renters have cars parking on the streets. Those occupied by homeowners have fewer cars. Private homes have fewer parking spaces and frequently rent to several students in one home. This also results in more cars than parking.
    - **Samuel Smith:** What ordinances are there?
    - **Gincy Thoppil:** No more than four unrelated people can live in one house. This is hard to enforce. UTA and Arlington police do investigate and sometimes find violators.
    - **Grace Darling:** Does not have issues with UTA where she lives.
    - **Barbara Salser:** Perhaps it would be good to have landlords of homes rented to students register. Upkeep is not as good on rentals. Students also park illegally on streets to avoid UTA parking fees. It would be difficult for emergency vehicles to go down some of those streets.
    - **Gincy Thoppil:** In summary the problems are parking, upkeep, and parties (litter).
    - **Board:** Perhaps the CoA can help in getting the "College Students Living Among Us" flier out to residents.
  - **Question 2:** Have any problems to do with culture or generation?
    - **Board:** Laughter. They're students.
  - **Question 3:** How can the CoA help?
    - **Board:** Attract a grocery store, have a Neighborhood Action plan, work with the UTA Department of Communication, and reduce street parking by UTA and Aramark employees by working with UTA to offer low-paid workers parking solutions.
    - **Gincy Thoppil:** The CoA can do outreach.
    - **Gincy Thoppil:** Here is a zoning case for your review – ZA 15-5, which is out to bid and scheduled for rezoning to RS-7.2 Residential Single-Family. The RFP has been out for four weeks and the CoA will decide whether to accept the single bid on September 15, 2015.
  - **Question 4.** Is crime a problem?
    - **Grace Darling:** It is on UTA lot 50.
    - **Dick Thomas:** No crime to blame on UTA.

### Old Business:

- **Pocket Park on Center Street and Pioneer Drive:** De’Onna Garner feels that the pocket park should not be a problem and proposed park may on the agenda at the next Park and Recreation Board meeting.
- **Julia Bergen Park:** The CoA has let contracts to start cleaning up the park and designing new trails, a playground, and parking area. There will be no trail from Mitchell Street to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and the project does not include a bridge across the creek. The project budget is \$2 million.
- **South Center Street Historic District:** Dick Thomas reported that Geraldine Mills suggested HANA could ask the Urban Design Center and the CoA how to preserve the area – perhaps to Johnson Creek. It would be a way to get design information from UTA interns and the CoA to help property owners who cannot afford to do it themselves. Rebecca Boxall asked if there was any way to provide incentives to owners. Dick Thomas replied that Mills was hoping the project would be able to make the area become a nice place without ruining it. Rebecca Boxall asked if it was possible to have the CoA purchase property that is not historic and perhaps get a comprehensive plan. Dick Thomas suggested that the area to be covered extend from 1<sup>st</sup> Street/Border south to Johnson Creek and east-west from Mary Street to Center Street. Barbara Salser moved to accept the proposal. Phil McConnell seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- **Nominating Committee:** Individuals whose terms are due to expire:
  - Expire
  - Vice-President Barbara Salser
  - Treasurer Grace Darling
  - Neighborhood Representatives Dale Bergeron
  - Neighborhood Representative Phil McConnell
  - Neighborhood Representative Russell Hildebrandt
  - Neighborhood Representative Rich Bilanceri

Dick Thomas asked Rebecca Boxall if she would be on the Nominating Committee and recruit two additional members who are not on the HANA Board. Samuel Smith and Floreen Henry were both suggested. Rebecca Boxall accepted. Barbara Salser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- **Grocery Store:** Dick Thomas, Grace Darling, Barbara Salser, and Rebecca Boxall have yet to meet with Devan Allen on the grocery store project.
- **Membership:** Gene Prater thought that perhaps HANA should have a membership drive. Perhaps we could have one board session devoted to this. Rebecca Boxall suggested that it would be a good idea to link the membership drive with National Night Out. Barbara Salser mentioned that Floreen Henry showed the board bookmarks and brochures that have been used in the past. Dale Bergeron felt that would not be effective. Rebecca Boxall thought that the CoA could help promote HANA. Barbara Salser reminded the board that people joined to support an issue. HANA could use the issue of high water bills to recruit members.
- **HANA Archives:** Location of small HANA archival collections - Samuel Smith, Grace Darling, and Barbara Salser. Lea Worcester said that she would accept them for UTA Libraries Special Collection any time.
- **Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted by Lea Worcester, Secretary